

## Testimony in Opposition to Jorge Perez

Members of the Nominations Committee, I am a Connecticut resident, submitting my testimony anonymously due to fear of retaliation. Not only has Mr. Perez shown himself capable of such behavior, but he has also testified as to his willingness before CT's banking Committee. Such bully tactics are pathetic and should be rejected by this Committee.

I ask Committee members to vote no on Mr. Perez based upon my personal experience. I am a mortgage lending professional with more than two decades experience that worked at 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance Lending, LLC in 2018, when Mr. Perez began his dishonest assault on the company.

Of the many lies peddled by Mr. Perez and his staff, the worst is his characterization of 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance as a "predatory lender". This is categorically false, and in direct conflict with the real facts about the company, and its track record. From 2010-2015, the company saved thousands of families, actual victims of predatory lenders, from foreclosure. Then the company shifted its focus to an Obama era program known as "serving the underserved". The results were phenomenal, and the company achieved over 35% minority share of total portfolio. Yes, more than 35% of the companies closed loans were Asian, Black, and/or Latino/Latina.

Those customers were always treated fairly – before and after loan closing. 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance went to great lengths, including single point of contact servicing, to keep its customers on track, and in their homes. These practices are very uncommon, and I have not witnessed a greater commitment to its customers in the industry than that of 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance.

Mr. Perez shown himself as a dishonest bully. If Connecticut is truly committed to "not letting bullies win", then Mr. Perez must be rejected. You'd think it would be safe for me to appear before you, as a citizen of this State, to take questions about this testimony. But when dealing with a bully like Mr. Perez, with powers he is granted, it isn't possible. This man is not worthy of those powers – I've seen it firsthand. I lost one job because of this bully; God forbid I lose my career. I have a family to care for.

Please vote no on Mr. Perez.